

Goll, please, followed by Senator Pappas, Vard Johnson, Senator Marsh and Senator DeCamp.

SENATOR GOLL: Mr. Speaker and ladies and gentlemen of the Legislature, a Norwegian dramatist said once, or he once said, and I'm not sure whether he said it more than once or once only, but he said, the strongest man on earth is he who stands alone. I certainly am not the strongest, but I do sense that I stand somewhat alone as I rise to oppose LR 57. I realize this is a resolution which most of you don't know too much about and, quite frankly, I would surmise that most of you really don't care too much about it either and that's understandable, but it is very important. Most resolutions before us which are not intended to amend the Constitution generally don't impact anything. This resolution is not like that. This resolution, if adopted, will return criminal jurisdiction to the Winnebago Tribe in Thurston County. It will set up an entirely separate new court system to prosecute criminal crimes committed by Indians, but it has the potential of tremendously affecting all 7,186 residents of Thurston County. Colleagues, I can't emphasize enough how critical and important this issue is to the people of my district. I urge each of you, I urge each of you to continue to listen carefully to all the debate and examine everything that is at your disposal. I would ask each of you to be certain you understand this issue before you cast your vote on LR 57. We get only one vote on this issue. It won't go through three rounds as does a bill and, if passed, it is irrevocable. It cannot be recalled. It cannot be altered. If this issue is passed, we can't change our minds. We cannot reverse the procedure next year or the year after that or the year after that. It is the duty of the proposers of this resolution to convince you why they need retrocession. What is it that retrocession does that can be accomplished in no other way? I challenge anyone to stand up and say why, why is retrocession so indispensable. I'm opposed to LR 57 for five reasons. Number one, retrocession will set up two separate distinct tax-supported police forces and courts to prosecute the people of Thurston County based on the race of the offender. It creates another state within Nebraska, another state within a state for purposes of criminal law enforcement. I do not support efforts to segregate Americans based on race for purposes of law enforcement or any other purpose. In my opinion, such segregation worsens race relations. We know, we know it wastes tax dollars. Number two, retrocession will create